

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 05648 162031Z

65

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

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S E C R E T USNATO 5648

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJ: MBFR: OPTION III: EQUIPMENT LIMITATIONS: SPC MEETING

OCTOBER 16

REFS: A) USNATO 5618 DTG 161034Z OCT 75 B) USNATO 5581 DTG 141645Z

OCT 75

1. AT OCTOBER 16 SPC MEETING, US REP (MOORE) STATED THAT THE US HAD
CONSIDERED THE QUESTION OF A TACTICS PAPER AT LENGTH. US HAD FOUND
THAT ALMOST EVERY PARAGRAPH OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE AND DRAFT
POSITION PAPER CONTAINED SOMETHING ON TACTICS. US HAD COME TO THE
CONCLUSION THAT A SEPARATE TACTICS PAPER WOULD BE UNNECESSARY
AND REDUNDANT. US BELIEVES THAT THE BEST PLACE TO WORK OUT ANY
FURTHER TACTICAL ISSUES WOULD BE THE DRAFT GUIDANCE.

2. UK REP (BAILES) SAID THAT THE ALLIES MUST REFLECT ON THE
CONSEQUENCES OF NOT HAVING A TACTICS PAPER, AND ON WHETHER ANY
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 05648 162031Z

ONE ELSE WANTS TO DRAFT ONE. THE UK, FOR ITS PART, BELIEVES
MORE WORK ON TACTICS IS NEEDED RE EQUIPMENT LIMITATIONS ISSUES.
RFG REP (HOYNCK) SAID HE EXPECTED HIS AUTHORITIES
WOULD AGREE WITH THE LATTER UK REMARK. ITALIAN REP (CIARRAPICO)

OBSERVED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES PREFERRED A SEPARATE TACTICS PAPER. CANADIAN REP (BARTLEMAN) AGREED WITH THE US VIEW, AND SAID THAT A SEPARATE TACTICS PAPER WOULD ONLY RESULT IN SPC DOING THE SAME WORK TWICE.

3. BELGIAN REP (WILLOT) RENEWED BELGIAN PROPOSAL TO MOVE PARA 10 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE (TEXT IN REF A) INTO PARA 5, DELETING THE BRACKETED LANGUAGE ON MANPOWER LIMITATIONS PRESENTLY IN PARA 5, AND KEEPING THE FINAL BRACKETED PHRASE IN PARA 10 ON MANPOWER LIMITATIONS. HE REITERATED THAT AHG RESPONSE TO EARLY EASTERN QUESTIONS ON NON-US EQUIPMENT LIMITATIONS SHOULD NOT CREATE IMPRESSION OF ALLIED WILLINGNESS LATER TO DISCUSS SUCH LIMITATIONS. FRG REP SAID FRG NOW BELIEVES THAT THE DRAFT GUIDANCE SHOULD EITHER CONTAIN THE FIRST BRACKETED PHRASE IN PARA 10 ("IF AT ANY POINT IN THE NEGOTIATIONS AFTER THE POINTS IN PARA 5 ABOVE HAVE BEEN MADE..."), OR PARA 10 SHOULD BE MOVED INTO PARA 5 IN THE WAY THE BELGIAN REP HAD PROPOSED. CANADIAN AND ITALIAN REPS ALSO SUPPORTED MOVING PARA 10 INTO PARA 5. US REP REITERATED REASONS FOR NOT DOING THIS.

4. COMMENT: THIS DISCUSSION WAS A CONTINUATION OF THE OCT 13 DISCUSSION (REF B). WE ASKED UK REP PRIVATELY WHAT UK HAD IN MIND IN REFERRING TO A SITUATION WHERE THE EAST MIGHT SAY IT COULD NOT PROVIDE AN INSTRUCTED RESPONSE ON OPTION III UNLESS THE EAST KNEW WHAT TO EXPECT RE CONSTRAINTS. (PARA 5, REF B). UK REP SAID LONDON WAS THINKING OF TACTICAL GUIDANCE ON WHICH EQUIPMENT LIMITATIONS ISSUES THE AHG COULD GO INTO, IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES. WE QUESTIONED THE NECESSITY OF WORKING OUT SUCH CONTINGENCY TACTICAL GUIDANCE. WE POINTED OUT THAT THIS WOULD AMOUNT TO A FALBACK POSITION WITH RESPECT TO THE POSITION AGREED BY THE ALLIES THAT THE AHG SHOULD SEEK TO DEFER THE DISCUSSION ON LIMITATIONS ISSUES. SUCH CONTINGENCY TACTICAL GUIDANCE IF LEAKED TO THE EAST WOULD BE DAMAGING. WE SAID THE BEST COURSE WOULD BE TO LEAVE PARAS 4 TO 10 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE SUBSTANTIALLY THE WAY THEY ARE, AND NOT TO ADD GUIDANCE TO COVER VARIOUS HYPOTHETICAL CONTINGENCIES.

SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 05648 162031Z

5. AFTER THE MEETING, IN LIGHT OF FRG REP'S CALL FOR EARLY USE OF PARA 10 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE IF NECESSARY, WE AGAIN CALLED TO HIS ATTENTION THE PHRASE IN THE PARA 3 ADD-ON UNDER BILATERAL US-FRG DISCUSSION ("IF FURTHER PRESSED CONCERNING NON-US ALLIED EQUIPMENT, THE ALLIES SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR AS APPROPRIATE THAT NON-US ALLIED EQUIPMENT IS NOT PART OF THE NATO OFFER."). FRG REP REPLIED THAT FRG CONSIDERS THIS PHRASE TO REFER TO REDUCTIONS, NOT LIMITATIONS, SINCE IT WOULD BE LOCATED IN PARA 3. EVEN IF IT WERE USED IN THE CONTEXT OF LIMITATIONS, HE WAS NOT SURE IT WOULD MEET VRG NEEDS, I.E. THAT AHG RESPONSE TO EARLY EASTERN QUESTIONS ABOUT LIMITATIONS ON NON-US EQUIPMENT NOT LEAVE THE IMPRESSION OF ALLIED WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER SUCH LIMITATIONS. END COMMENT.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE PER PARA 11 A, REF B, IN TIME
FOR SPC MEETING MONDAY, OCTOBER 20. STREATOR

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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